style at home

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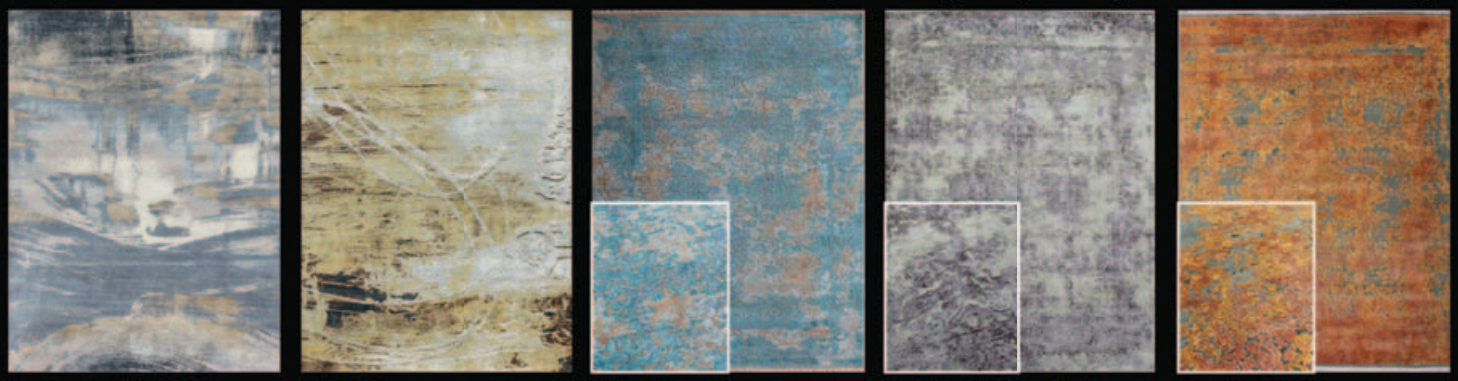

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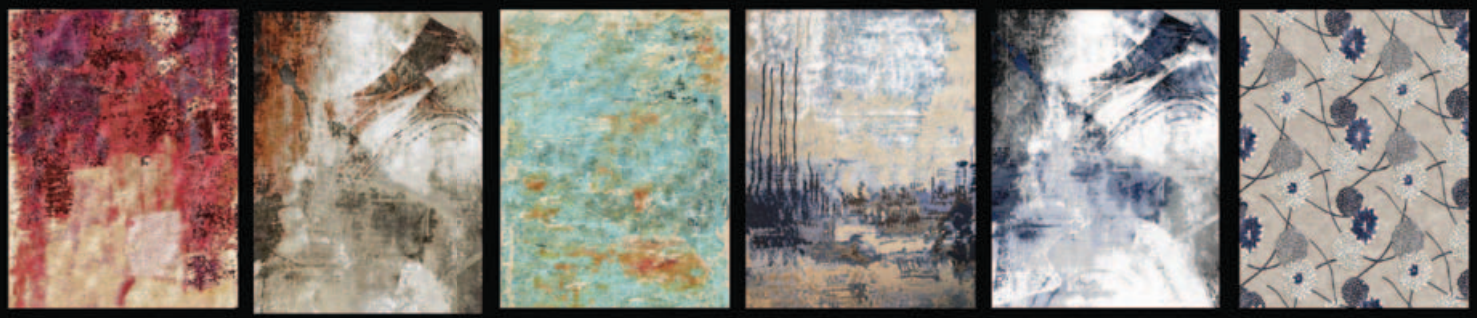

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styleathome AUGUST 2015

This delightful vignette epitomizes summer.

HOMES

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This cozy lake house boasts a fresh seaside-chic vibe

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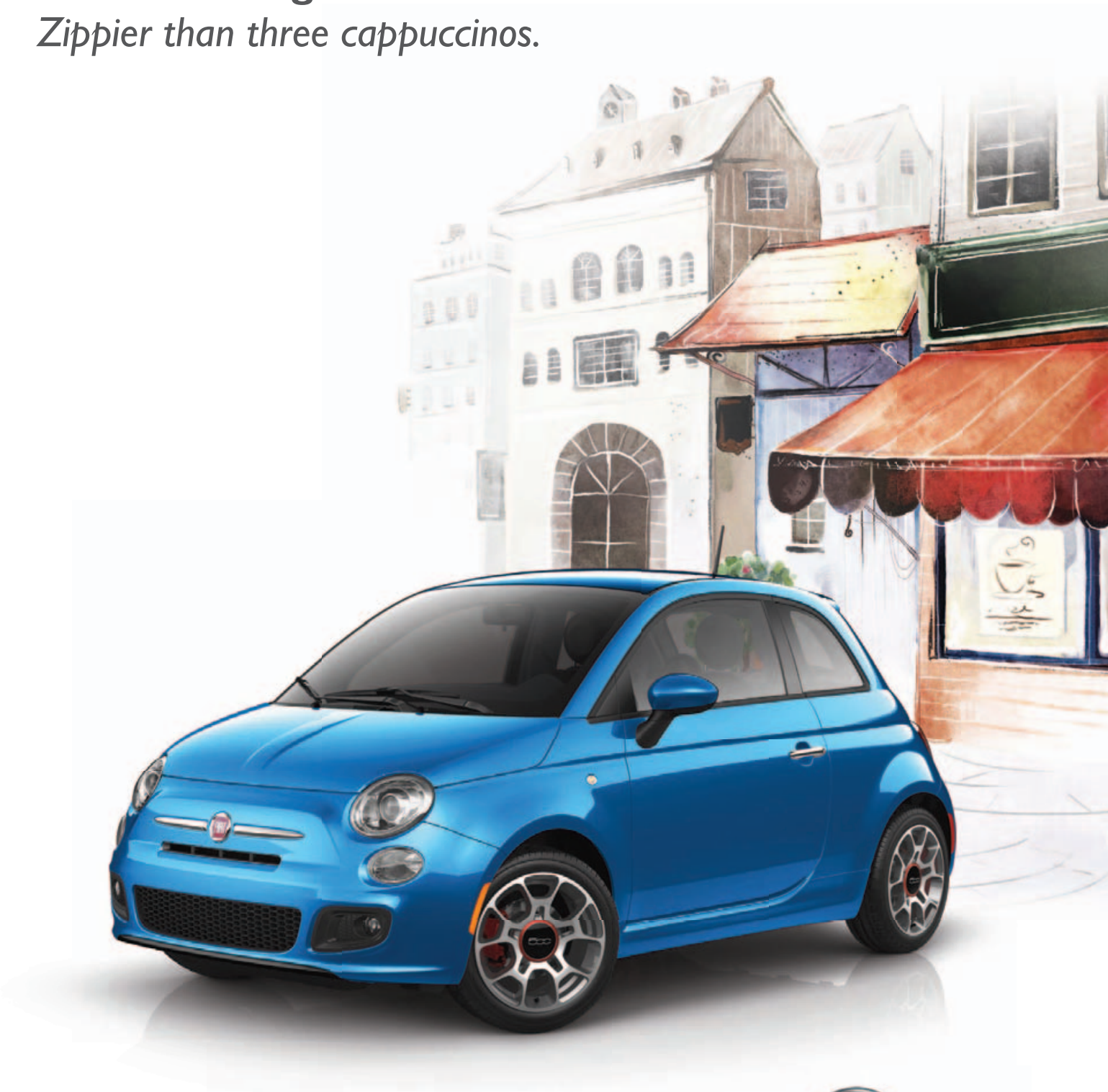
TABLET EDITION
Get *Style at Home* for your iPad, with additional how-to video content, bonus image galleries and more. Download it on the App Store today.

ON THE COVER
Copper pendant lights, slipcovered chairs and a trestle table equal cottage comfort **84**

PHOTOGRAPHY
Robin Stubbert

Tastier than gelato.

Zippier than three cappuccinos.



The FIAT® 500 captures all the many flavours of Italy in an amazingly fun-to-drive package. And even when it's having fun, it still keeps an eye on the gas tank, delivering an impressive 5.9 L/100 km highway.* No wonder it was a *Consumer's Digest Best Buy.* Get a true taste of Italian style and performance, starting from just $16,495.^

*As good as 7.6 L/100 km city. Based on 2015 EnerGuide fuel consumption ratings for FIAT 500 equipped with the 1.4L MultiAir® I-4 engine and five-speed manual hatchback. Your actual fuel consumption will vary. Ask your retailer for EnerGuide information. ^Starting at price of 2015 FIAT 500 Pop. Starting from price of FIAT 500 Sport model shown: $19,895. Freight ($1,695), retailer fees, taxes and other charges extra.

LOOKING FOR MORE INSPIRATION?
Check out our interactive summer menu on Instagram: @sah_summer_menu

The perfect imperfection of the walls and elevator doors at New York City's design mecca ABC Carpet & Home.

DAY tripping

How is it possible to stay inspired all the time? The truth is, it isn't. Recently, after a week of non-stop coast-to-coast travel for work, I found myself sitting in a hotel room in New York City, exhausted, avoiding emails from executive editor Suzanne Moutis. She was sternly reminding me that the copy for my editor's letter was late – again. As the editor of *Style at Home* as well as *Canadian Gardening*, I write 21 editor's letters a year, and sometimes I find myself with writer's block. This was one of those times. Then it hit me: I was in NYC, one of the most inspiring cities in the world! I grabbed my camera and hit the streets.

Within a few minutes I was walking through the floral district at West 26th St. and 6th Ave., where potted trees and barrels of flowers spilled wantonly out into the busy street. The juxtaposition between nature and concrete is classic New York. I continued east and then turned south on Broadway, stopping at the ultimate design and decor mecca, ABC Carpet & Home. Soon I was captivated by pure style – from diminutive artisanal saucers on sale to handmade Tibetan wool rugs large enough for a ballroom. Even the elevators were beautiful. Decades of paint had been hand-scraped off the plaster walls and steel doors to create a painterly patina.

When I got back to my hotel, I was exhilarated – and inspired. All it took was a little fresh air, some creative genius and a bit of natural beauty. Hopefully the houses in this issue, with their seaside settings, spirited designs and affinity with the outdoors will bring that same inventive feeling to you. Happy decorating!

Erin

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PHOTOGRAPHY, STACEY VAN BERKEL; HAIR & MAKEUP, NATALIE BLOUIN/PLUTINO GROUP; SHIRT, PANTS, NECKLACE, TED BAKER LONDON; WATCH, HERMÈS

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We acknowledge the financial support of the Government of Canada through the Canada Periodical Fund of the Department of Canadian Heritage. *Style at Home* is published monthly by TVA Publications Inc., 25 Sheppard Ave. W., Toronto, ON M2N 6S7; 416-733-7600; www.groupetva.ca. Contents ©2015 TVA Publications Inc. All rights reserved. Single-copy newsstand price: $5.99. Subscriptions: Canada: one year $29.95 (plus taxes). U.S.: one year $67.95 payable in advance. Other countries: one year $177.95 payable in advance. Send subscription orders to: *Style at Home*, Sub. Dept., P.O. Box 814, Markham Station, Markham, ON L3P 7Z6. Send address changes to the post office box address above, including the mailing label from your latest issue, visit www.styleathome.com or call 905-946-0910. Allow eight weeks for changes. CANADIAN POSTMASTER: Return undeliverable Canadian addresses to *Style at Home*, 25 Sheppard Ave. W., Ste. 100, Toronto, ON M2N 6S7. Publications Mail Agreement 41557548, PAP Registration 08282. Postage paid at Gateway in Mississauga, ON. U.S. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to *Style at Home*, Box 766, Buffalo, NY 14240-0766. Periodicals postage paid at Buffalo, NY USPS731-350. Download the *Style at Home* app for iPad on the App Store. Digital editions are also available on Zinio, Kobo, Press Reader, Nook and Google Play Newsstand. PRIVACY POLICY: On occasion, we make our subscriber list available to carefully screened organizations whose products or services might interest you. If you prefer that we not share your name and address (postal and/or email), you can easily remove your name from our mailing list by reaching us at any of the listed contact points. You can review our complete Privacy Policy at www.styleathome.com. Printed at Transcontinental RBW Graphics, a division of Transcontinental Printing 2005 G.P., 2049 20th St. E., Owen Sound, ON N4K 5R2. Distributed by Coast to Coast. All reproduction requests must be made to COPIBEC (paper reproductions at 800-717-2022), or CEDROM-SNI (electronic reproductions at reproduction@cedrom-sni.com). ISSN: 1915-8998.

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Hand-crocheted cotton Fringed **HAMMOCK**, $395 US, Serena & Lily, serenaandlily.com.

AUGUST'S MUST-HAVE: *haute hammock*

Summer days were made for lounging, and this crocheted hammock delivers a stylish spot to lay your head and rest your feet. We love this artisanal showpiece in a streamlined environment.

ILLUST BATTON, MICHELLE MORELAN

FRESH PICK

MARK OUR WORDS: THE PEAR IS THE "IT" FRUIT OF THE SUMMER. Inject your outdoor space with the fun print while it's still ripe for the pickin'.

MOVE OVER WATERMELON AND PINEAPPLE – THE FRUIT DU JOUR IS THE SHAPELY PEAR. THE SWEET SENSATION IS HAVING ITS MOMENT ON OUTDOOR-FRIENDLY TABLEWARE FROM IKEA'S SOMMAR 2015 COLLECTION. THE WHIMSICAL PATTERN OFFERS A HIT OF FRESH GREEN ON TRAYS, TABLECLOTHS, NAPKINS AND MORE.

Sommar 2015 **TABLEWARE,** from $2 each, IKEA, ikea.ca.

PINK OF THE MOMENT

Not too bright, not too light – it's just right!

When the hot weather hits, painting your nails a pretty pink is almost a given. So why not do the same for the rooms in your home? We picked the perfect shade to liven up any wall or accent piece.

Beauti-Tone Style at Home Country Colour Collection Poppies FD023 **PAINT,** from $38 per gallon, Home Hardware, homehardware.ca.

This funky streamlined Italian-made nightstand is what modern bedroom dreams are made of.

Convertibles one-drawer lacquered wood veneer **NIGHTSTAND** in Maldive with steel base, $549, Mobilia, mobilia.ca.

These colourful too-cool-for-school chairs are stackable for easy storage.

Blu Dot powder-coated steel Hot Mesh **CHAIRS,** $199 each, Shelter, shelterfurniture.ca.

HOT MESH

We instantly fell in love with the cool cube-patterned mesh of these powder-coated steel chairs by Blu Dot. The selection of six bold colours is preppy and playful. Pick one or mix and match to create a youthful look indoors or out.

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* Adult skincare brand in North America, excl. Mexico.

Check out Michael's signature style at **STYLEATHOME.COM/PENNEY.**

MAGIC MIKE

DO THE POLKA

Hosting a cocktail party? Step up your bar cart game with this chic acrylic ice bucket. Featuring a cute gold polka-dot motif, it's as stylish as it is functional.

Kate Spade New York acrylic Raise a Glass **ICE BUCKET**, $54, Indigo, indigo.ca.

From furniture to picture frames – the DIY paint possibilities are endless.

RUSTIC-DECOR DARLING MICHAEL PENNEY OF PENNEY & CO. TEAMED UP WITH PAINT BRAND FUSION ON AN EAST COAST-INSPIRED COLLECTION OF SEVEN MINERAL-BASED HUES (THINK: BLUES, GREENS AND NEUTRALS). REVAMP ANY HAND-ME-DOWN OR VINTAGE FIND IN ONE EASY STEP WITH THIS ACRYLIC PAINT THAT BOASTS A VELVETY MATTE FINISH.

Penney & Co. Collection acrylic **PAINT**, from $19 per pint, Fusion, fusionmineralpaint.com.

Angular stainless steel legs lend the armchair an edgy vibe.

BEST OF BOTH WORLDS

Modern meets classic in this cushy outdoor armchair. The reclaimed-teak frame and light green ticking stripe cushions are a nod to laid-back seaside living, while the angular silhouette and sleek stainless steel legs keep the look current.

Origin **ARMCHAIR**, $2,390, and Sunbrella **CUSHIONS**, from $80 each, Andrew Richard Designs, andrewricharddesigns.com.

PROUDLY INTRODUCING

THE ALL-NEW 2015 CHRYSLER 200

AN IMPRESSIVE FIRST IMPRESSION

The all-new 2015 Chrysler 200 will change the way you look at North American-built sedans. For starters, it's Canada's most affordable mid-size.[1] Its sophisticated aerodynamic design, finely sculpted curves and striking profile only hint at the crafted, premium amenities that await. You'll find comfort and quality in every detail, from available Nappa leather-faced seating and real wood trim to the innovative pass-through console. In fact, this remarkable blend of high-end fit and finish and ingenious engineering has been recognized with the *Ward's* 10 Best Interiors Award. The all-new 2015 Chrysler 200, impressively priced at just $22,495.[2]

10 WARD'S Best Interiors

chrysler.ca

[1]Based on 2014 *Ward's* Lower Middle sedan segmentation and MSRP of base models. [2]MSRP for 2015 Chrysler 200 LX excludes freight ($1,695), insurance, registration, taxes, dealer and other fees. MSRP for 2015 Chrysler 200C model shown: $28,695.

PRODUCER AMANDA ETTY

kitchen cravings

Each issue, we round up the latest and greatest kitchen gadgets, gourmet products, cookbooks and more.

1

I SCREAM, YOU SCREAM

These petite stoneware ice cream cups are a warm-weather essential for dinner parties and afternoon sundae bars.

Easy Like Sundae Ice Cream **BOWLS,** $10 US each, Anthropologie, anthropologie.com.

2

GO WITH THE FLOW

Get your eight a day the eco-friendly way. Naturally alkaline spring water Flow contains electrolytes and essential minerals, such as zinc and magnesium. Better yet, it comes in a BPA-free fully renewable carton.

Naturally Alkaline Spring **WATER,** $2.50, Flow, flowlikewater.com.

3

GONE BANANAS

Emulsify frozen fruit into a wholesome sweet treat that looks and tastes like soft serve ice cream (minus the dairy and refined sugar) with the Yonanas Healthy Dessert Maker.

Yonanas Healthy **DESSERT MAKER** in Silver, $60, Hudson's Bay, thebay.com.

SALTS OF THE EARTH

Sea salt makes everything delicious. Sprinkle this herb-flavoured one over salads, grilled fish and pasta dishes. Beautifully packaged in a classic Weck jar, it makes for an appreciated hostess gift.

North Fork Sea Salt Co. Herb De' Nofo **SEA SALT,** $10 US, Blue Hill Market, bluehillmarket.com.

Forget the salt shaker and pass the Rivsalt. This stainless steel pink Himalayan rock salt grater, set on a beechwood stand, will instantly add European sophistication to your dinner table.

Rivsalt **SALT GRATER,** $33, Kikkerland, kikkerland.com.

4

cocktail pick

ROSE-COLOURED GLASSES

Dillon's crafts natural spirits in small batches in Ontario's Niagara region. Its traditional London-style gin, infused with rosehips and petals, evokes sunny Gatsby-style garden parties – we're certain Daisy Buchanan would approve.

Rose Gin **LIQUEUR,** from $25, Dillon's Small Batch Distillers, dillons.ca.

cocktail RECIPE

ROSE GIN FRENCH 75

In a champagne flute or coupe, combine 1 oz Dillon's Rose Gin, ¼ oz freshly squeezed lemon juice and 3 oz sparkling wine. Garnish with a lemon peel twist or dried rose petals.

LOVE

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orange polenta pudding cake

Zingy citrus and Greek yogurt make this cake perfect for more than just dessert – try it morning, noon and night.

RECIPE & FOOD STYLING
TANYA ENG

PHOTOGRAPHY
JOE KIM

PROP STYLING
ANN MARIE FAVOT

Lazy evenings at the cottage require a light "after" that's *easy* to assemble but doesn't skimp on *taste* – the kind of treat that keeps the fork in your hand, reaching for just one more *bite*.

THIS JUICY CAKE FITS THE BILL. IN FACT, IT'S A DESSERT THAT'S SO FRESH AND GOOD YOU'LL WANT IT FOR A LAZY COTTAGE BREAKFAST, TOO.

PHOTOGRAPHY, JOE KIM/TC MEDIA

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Sometimes food can really speak to kids.

Moms just know.

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SPOON THE SYRUP OVER THE CAKE WHILE IT'S STILL IN THE PAN TO LET IT SINK IN BEFORE SERVING.

INGREDIENTS

SERVES 8 TO 10

- ¾ cup unsalted butter, softened
- 1¼ cups granulated sugar, divided
- 3 eggs
- 1 cup freshly squeezed orange juice, divided
- ¼ cup Greek yogurt
- 1 tbsp freshly grated orange zest
- 1 cup instant polenta
- 1 cup almond meal
- 1 tsp baking powder
- ½ tsp kosher salt
- 2 small oranges
- ¼ cup orange liqueur, such as Grand Marnier

DIRECTIONS

Using a stand mixer fitted with the paddle attachment, beat the butter and 1 cup of the sugar on medium speed until light and fluffy. Add the eggs, one at a time; continue beating, occasionally scraping down the sides of the bowl. Turn the mixer to low speed and add ½ cup of the orange juice, the yogurt and zest; beat until thoroughly combined.

In a medium bowl, whisk together the instant polenta, almond meal, baking powder and salt. Fold the dry ingredients into the wet ingredients until fully incorporated. Scrape the batter into a greased 10" round springform pan.

Preheat the oven to 350°F. Using a sharp knife, cut the peel from the oranges and slice the flesh crosswise into thin rounds; arrange the slices on top of the cake batter. Bake until the edges of the cake are golden brown and the centre is lightly puffed but still dense and pudding-like to the touch, about 30 to 40 minutes.

Meanwhile, in a small saucepan, bring the orange liqueur, remaining ¼ cup sugar and ½ cup orange juice to a simmer, stirring until the sugar is dissolved. Spoon the syrup over the warm cake before removing the cake from the pan. Let cool slightly before serving.

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Muskoka

ONTARIO

Muskoka is by turns a rustic paradise and a polished luxury destination. Associate editor Sara Cation has spent summers roughing it there since she was small – here, she shares her top spots.

Number of days to spend here

3

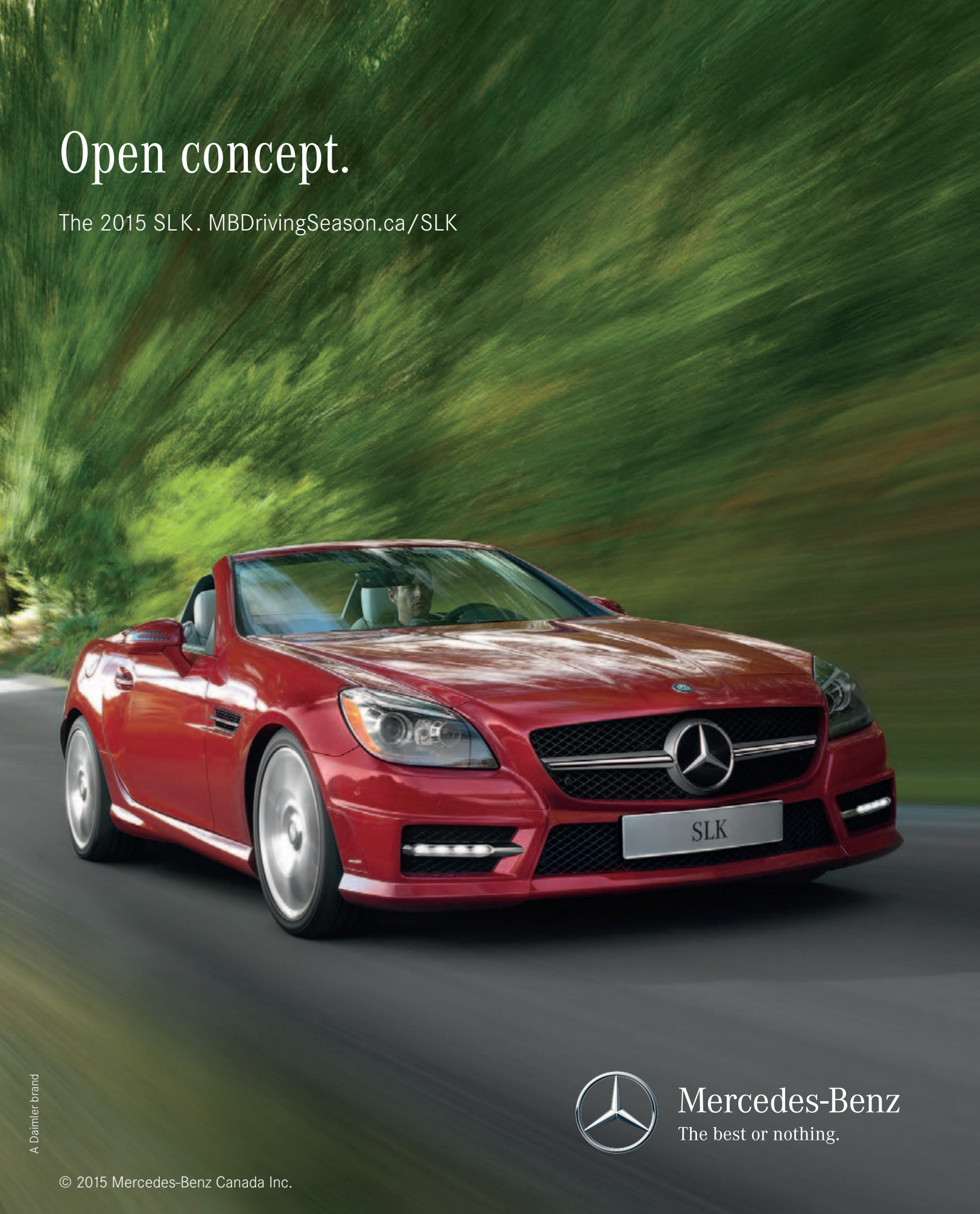
Day 1

Check into the stunning **Touchstone on Lake Muskoka** resort in Bracebridge, Ont. If there's a group of you, opt for one of the treetop villas, each of which offers a 270-degree view of the lake and private hot tub. Let vacation mode sink in while luxuriating on the beach, on the dock, in the infinity pool or at the spa. For lunch, head to **Marty's World Famous (2),** and don't skip the sweets – chef Michael Smith once called owner Marty Curtis "the Michelangelo of butter tarts," and when in Rome.... Once you're fully fuelled, go for a hike along one of Bracebridge's many sylvan trails. My favourites are **Strawberry Point Trail,** which culminates in a pretty picnic and swimming spot on Lake Muskoka, and **Wilson's Falls Trail,** which takes you along the Muskoka River to a rushing waterfall. Treat yourself to an afternoon tour of **Muskoka Brewery** (and pick up a six-pack of its award-winning Cream Ale while you're at it), then indulge in some retail therapy at **Simply Cottage,** which specializes in cottage-chic decor and is located in the historic Muskoka Foundry, built in 1904. Return to the resort's **Touchstone Grill** for dinner, timing it to enjoy the sunset with dessert.

PHOTOGRAPHY, STACEY VAN BERKEL (MUSKOKA CHAIRS), DOUGLAS BRADSHAW PHOTOGRAPHY (BUTTER TART), MICHAEL GRAYDON (MUSKOKA LIVING INTERIORS), GETTY IMAGES/JAN TYLER (BOAT), ISTOCKPHOTO (ICE CREAM CONE)

Open concept.

The 2015 SLK. MBDrivingSeason.ca/SLK



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Day 2

Take a scenic 12-minute drive to the neighbouring town of Port Carling, pausing on the way at **Jon Partridge Pottery,** a small studio on a quaint farm (the showroom is in an old chicken coop) with picture-perfect country gardens tended by Jon's wife, Suzann. Shop the town's quintessential cottage decor stores, **Muskoka Living Interiors (3), Peaks & Rafters (4)** and **Lock + Quay (1),** which have outfitted so many of the cottages that grace our pages. After you've worked up an appetite, grab a sandwich on freshly baked bread at **Abbey's Bake House** and then meander to **Mooskoka's (6)** to enjoy an ice cream on the docks while watching the boats pass through the locks between Lake Muskoka and Lake Rosseau. Enjoy the late afternoon sun touring the lake on one of the classic wooden boats that hark back to the 1930s through to the '50s from **Muskoka Launch Livery (5)** (arrange for your boat rental to be dropped off in advance). Cap off your day by the water with dinner at **Water's Edge Wine Bar & Grill,** located at the meticulously manicured Lake Joseph Club. (Pro tips: Get the tuna, recommends executive chef Derry Sylvester; amateur sommeliers will love the extensive wine list.)

Day 3

Check out of the resort and head toward home, stopping en route in neighbouring Gravenhurst for one last dose of lakeside living. Sit down for lunch at **Taboo Muskoka's Boathouse** restaurant or kick it cottager style and wait in line at **Shelby's Chipwagon** for the best sweet potato fries and poutine in town. Then, hop aboard the grand **RMS Segwun,** North America's oldest operating hand-fired steamship (and the source of the infamous "toooot-toot-toot" steam whistle sound that's as synonymous with Muskoka as the call of the loon at dusk). The iconic tour is a Muskoka must.

PLAN YOUR OWN TRIP

Tourism Bracebridge
tourismbracebridge.com

Touchstone on Lake Muskoka
touchstoneonlake-muskoka.com

Marty's World Famous
martysworldfamous.com

Muskoka Trails Council
muskokatrailscouncil.com

Muskoka Brewery
muskokabrewery.com

Simply Cottage
simplycottage.ca

Port Carling
portcarling.com

Jon Partridge Pottery
partridgepottery.com

Muskoka Living Interiors
muskokaliving.ca

Peaks & Rafters
peaksandrafters.com

Lock + Quay
lockandquay.com

Abbey's Bake House
abbeysbakehouse.ca

Mooskoka's
705-765-7200

Muskoka Launch Livery
muskokalaunch-livery.com

Water's Edge Wine Bar & Grill
lakejoseph.clublink.ca

Town of Gravenhurst
gravenhurst.ca

Taboo Muskoka
taboomuskoka.com

Shelby's Chipwagon
facebook.com/shelbyschipwagon

Muskoka Steamships
realmuskoka.com

Sunbathing, swimming, boating, hiking and shopping: Prep for hot days, cool nights and maximum time outdoors.

what to PACK

stylish shoes

▼ Sperry Authentic Original Lisbon Umbrella 2-Eye **BOAT SHOES,** $110, Gray Malin, graymalin.com.

picnic blanket

◀ Pendleton Hacienda **BLANKET,** $365, Roots, roots.com.

natural bug spray

◀ Outdoor **BODY MIST,** $12, Modern Apothecary, modernapothecary.ca.

chic shades

▼ Ray-Ban Round Metal **SUNGLASSES,** $178, J.Crew, jcrew.com.

beach towel

◀ HBC Collection **BEACH TOWEL** in Chunky, $40, Hudson's Bay, thebay.com.

shopping tote

◀ Everything **TOTE,** $48, Province of Canada, province-ofcanada.com.

Whatever you do, don't forget to bring your bathing suit!

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28724113

high OR low?

PRODUCER ANDREA MCCRINDLE | **TEXT** MARY LEVITSKI | **PHOTOGRAPHY** MICHAEL NANGREAVES

We patched together a colourful boho-chic cottage sitting room on budgets befitting both an antiques fair and a flea market. Can you tell the difference?

$295US

1 Santa Monica rattan Diamond **PENDANT LIGHT,** Serena & Lily, serenaandlily.com.

$450

2 Swingasan handwoven resin wicker Dreamcatcher **HANGING CHAIR,** Pier 1 Imports, pier1.ca.

$98US

3 Fringed cotton Blanket Stitch **THROW** in Yellow, Anthropologie, anthropologie.com.

$1,200

4 Viggo Boesen rattan Fox **SIDECHAIR** in Natural, Mjölk, mjolk.ca.

$649

5 Hand-carved sheesham wood Aya **COFFEE TABLES,** per 2-piece set, Shelter, shelterfurniture.ca.

$700

6 Franco Albini small rattan **OTTOMAN,** Mjölk, mjolk.ca.

$700

7 Boucherouite hand-loomed recycled fabric **RUG,** 5′ x 8′, Dynasty, dynastytoronto.com.

$239

8 Queen cotton Candlewick Circle **COVERLET** with appliqué mirrors, West Elm, westelm.com.

$350

9 Vintage hand-stitched silk patchwork **THROW,** Haveli Home, havelihome.com.

$78US

10 Small cotton Diamond Dots **TOSS CUSHION** in Yellow with polyfill insert, Anthropologie, anthropologie.com.

$98US

11 Medium embroidered cotton and acrylic blend Kosala **TOSS CUSHION** in Orange with polyfill insert, Anthropologie, anthropologie.com.

HIGH & LOW Behr Cameo White MQ3-32 and Tapestry Red HDC-CL-10 **WALL PAINTS,** CIL Folk Tale 30GG 40/290 **FLOOR PAINT,** wooden **WALL & FLOORBOARDS, SCREEN DOOR,** The Home Depot, homedepot.ca; **SOFA,** Structube, structube.com; **WALL HANGING** (on coral wall), Macralors, macralors.etsy.com; macramé **WALL HANGING** (on white wall), macramé **PLANT HANGERS** (turquoise, and white with blue pot), Freefille, freefille.etsy.com; vintage macramé **PLANT HANGER,** Goodwill, goodwill.com; **BASKET,** Serena & Lily, serenaandlily.com; fur **TOSS CUSHION,** West Elm, westelm.com; cement **BOWL,** Dynasty, dynastytoronto.com.

$80

1 Handwoven bamboo Böja **PENDANT LIGHT,** IKEA, ikea.ca.

$50

2 Vintage bamboo **HANGING CHAIR,** Kijiji, kijiji.ca.

$25

3 THROW, HomeSense, homesense.ca.

$100

4 Vintage bamboo **ROCKING CHAIR,** Kijiji, kijiji.ca.

$299

5 Stockholm walnut-veneered-fibreboard **COFFEE TABLES,** per 2-piece set, IKEA, ikea.ca.

$40

6 Banana fibre Alseda **OTTOMAN,** IKEA, ikea.ca.

$30

7 Recycled fabric Rag **RUG,** 3′ x 5′, Haveli Home, havelihome.com.

$214

8 LaMont queen cotton chenille Arianna **COVERLET** in White, per 3-piece set, O.co.

$200

9 Hand-quilted printed cotton **THROW,** Haveli Home, havelihome.com.

$59

10 Embroidered cotton Modern Crewel Lattice **TOSS CUSHION COVER** in Horseradish, $45, and polyfill **INSERT,** $14, West Elm, westelm.com.

$83

11 Hand-loomed cotton chindi Shag Stripe **TOSS CUSHION COVER,** $69, and polyfill **INSERT,** $14, West Elm, westelm.com.

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COLOUR + WICKER + MACRAMÉ = boho chic

tactile tactic

Layers of diverse fibres and weaves lend the room a well-loved feel.

Coarse textures like thick cotton rope macramé and woven banana fibre play against softer silk and chenille.

FROM TOP Cotton chindi Shag Stripe **TOSS CUSHION COVER,** $69, West Elm, westelm.com; cotton macramé **WALL HANGING,** $129, Freefille, freefille.etsy.com; cotton Blanket Stitch **THROW,** $98 US, Anthropologie, anthropologie.com; printed cotton **THROW,** $200, vintage silk patchwork **THROW,** $350, Haveli Home, havelihome.com; cotton Candlewick Circle **COVERLET,** $239, West Elm, westelm.com; cotton chenille Arianna **COVERLET,** $214 per 3-piece set, O.co; recycled fabric Rag **RUG,** $30, Haveli Home, havelihome.com; banana fibre Alseda **OTTOMAN,** $40, IKEA, ikea.ca; Boucherouite recycled fabric **RUG,** $700, Dynasty, dynastytoronto.com.

ROOM WITH A (GARDEN) VIEW

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FROM TOP LEFT Teal wool-blend **WALL HANGING,** $69, The House Phoenix, thehousephoenix.etsy.com; medium cotton The Chevron **PLANT HANGER** with brass beads, $78 US, Warp & Weft by Charlene Spiteri, cspiteri.etsy.com; ceramic **POT,** $15, Dynasty, dynastytoronto.com; cotton Dip-Dye **PLANT HANGER** in Turquoise with mango beads (includes terracotta pot), $48 US, Anthropologie, anthropologie.com; Pop Brights nylon **PLANT HANGER** in Yellow (includes terracotta pot), $44 US, medium nylon Diamond Design **PLANT HANGER** in Black (glass fishbowl vase not included), $93 US, Warp & Weft by Charlene Spiteri, cspiteri.etsy.com; Cathy Terepocki ceramic Gladstone **HANGING POT** in Turquoise with hemp rope, $62, Brika, brika.com; nylon **PLANT HANGER** in Turquoise, $50, Freefille, freefille.etsy.com; glazed hand-carved terracotta Rati **POT,** $35, Crate and Barrel, crateandbarrel.ca; vintage **PLANT HANGER,** $5, Goodwill, goodwill.com; terracotta Ingefära **POT,** $20, IKEA, ikea.ca.

When was the last time you colored outside the lines? The boho trend is back, and we want to help you express your creativity. It's all about vintage-inspired silhouettes and patterns. Damask. Paisley. Chindi. Suzani. Global accents. A rich spectrum of color. And don't be afraid of "nontraditional" matching. Because to do boho your way, all you have to do is embrace your imagination. Let's have some fun.

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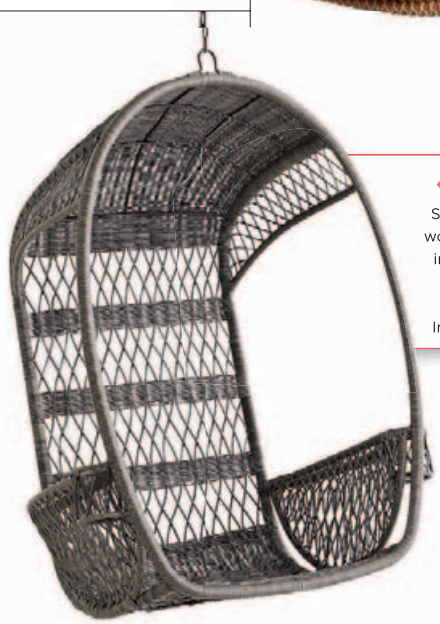
« HIGH
Resin wicker Egg-Shaped with stainless steel chain hanger (includes seat cushion), $578, Lowe's, lowes.ca.

MEDIUM »
Handmade bent rattan in Natural with rope hanger, $450 US, Serena & Lily, serenaandlily.com.



« LOW
Swingasan hand-woven resin wicker in Gray with iron chain hanger, $380, Pier 1 Imports, pier1.ca.

how's it hanging?

THE VINTAGE OIL PAINTINGS ON OUR GALLERY WALL VARY FROM CANADIAN SHORELINES TO CARIBBEAN BEACHES TO SEABORNE SHIPS, BUT WE'VE STUCK TO A COASTAL THEME, ALLOWING OURSELVES TO PLAY WITH DIFFERENT HANGING OPTIONS.

1. clip art Hang a painting sans frame using a wall-mounted clip like this one from Lee Valley Tools. 2. as is For an extra time-worn element, leave one vintage find in its original frame – the more weathered, the better. 3. floater Play with negative space by appending an oversized frame around a hanging unframed piece. 4. strapping macramé Plait or knot some cotton rope into a strap for suspending your art.

pre-loved lovelies

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URBAN GETAWAY

Get whisked away from city life to a modern Zen retreat by simply stepping out your back door. Here are 10 tips for creating an exotic minimalist sanctuary.

1. Echo the Indoors

Toufik Sarwa's home is fashionably appointed with white furniture, black accents and geometric prints – a confident scheme that extends to his patio in the white and grey seating, black umbrella and fretwork-patterned toss cushions.

TEXT
IRIS BENAROIA

PHOTOGRAPHY
MICHAEL GRAYDON

STYLING
CHRISTINE HANLON

Decorating an outdoor space is a matter of taste. Fans of English gardens may go mad for tangles of roses and clematis, but Toufik Sarwa likes a restrained modern vibe. So it's no surprise that his 960-square-foot backyard in Toronto's Summerhill neighbourhood is as composed and stylish as an indoor living room, complete with lounge furniture, inky black accents and pretty perches for cocktails – and there's plenty of those going around. With exotic accessories surrounded by contemporary-chic fencing and vibrant greenery, it's an ideal hangout for the bon vivant crowd. Not on Toufik's guest list? Bring your own urban oasis to life with these easy tips.

2. Divvy It Up

Whether your backyard is large or small, carve out different "rooms" to make use of the whole space. Toufik's two sitting areas provide him with options: Lounge in the open under the sun or relax in the intimate shaded nook under the pergola.

3. Keep It Cozy

Plush elements like throws and toss cushions allow you to enjoy the outdoors long after the sun has set and the temperature has dropped.

4. Get a Room

Covered seating feels like a whimsical hideaway. The vine-wrapped pergola, revealing just a few snippets of sky, lends the atmosphere of a wooded wonderland or vineyard. Its canopy of intertwined grape leaves will eventually shroud the structure, making it feel like its own room.

5. Go Low Maintenance

As a busy bar owner, Toufik needs an outdoor space that doesn't require much upkeep. The large pavers for the patio look clean and contemporary, the mulch at the back of the yard feels wild and rustic and the simple slate pathway leading from one sitting area to the other is striking, with no mowing required.

6. Accessorize!

Super-stylish Toufik knows accessories are key in both fashion and decor, so he added ample exotic elements, such as the Buddha statue and Moroccan-style lanterns.

7. Make a Great Escape

When you step into your backyard and feel swept away to a far-off land, you have an at-home vacation destination. Tropical plants will help get you there. Think Dr. Seuss: Big, zany greenery with spikes and fronds paired with grasses and ferns results in a lush, verdant look.

8. Grow Green

A sharply dressed yard like this requires uniformity. Keep the look tight and cohesive with mostly green plantings, adding interest via the shape and size of their foliage.

9. Rethink Tradition

Picket fences are for the past! This contemporary cedar fence, with its thin horizontal slats, is at once unexpected, architectural and Zen. The modern design casts interesting shadows and can act as a trellis for climbing plants.

Dedon **SOFA, ARMCHAIRS & COFFEE TABLE,** Studio B; Tucci **UMBRELLA,** metal latticework **SIDE TABLES,** fretwork-patterned **TOSS CUSHIONS,** Fresh Home & Garden; black and gold hammered-metal **BOWL, PLANTS** (on steps), IKEA.

10. Play by the Rules

Design principles – like the rule of threes – apply outdoors, too, especially when it comes to layout composition. Here, a trio of planters provides a layered backdrop to the chairs and table, creating a beautifully balanced sitting area.

Gloster **CHAIRS & COFFEE TABLE, PLANTERS,** faux **BOXWOOD,** black Moroccan-style **LANTERNS,** Buddha **STATUE,** Fresh Home & Garden.

FOR SOURCES, SEE OUR WORKBOOK

GET THE LOOK

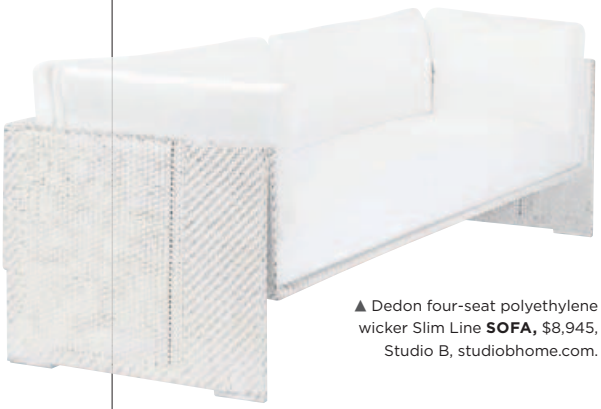
MODERN ZEN

▶ Wire **SIDE TABLE,** $169, CB2, cb2.ca.

◀ Garden Treasures Octagon Market **UMBRELLA,** $179, Lowe's, lowes.ca.

▼ Angenäm **BOWL,** $25, IKEA, ikea.ca.

▲ Estate Zinc Square **PLANTERS,** from $275 US each, Restoration Hardware, rh.com.



▲ Dedon four-seat polyethylene wicker Slim Line **SOFA,** $8,945, Studio B, studiobhome.com.

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TEXT JENNIFER HUGHES
PHOTOGRAPHY ROBIN STUBBERT
STYLING ANN MARIE FAVOT

MADE *(over)* *with* LOVE

Transforming a builder-basic kitchen with clever DIY touches is no sweat for this skilled homeowner.

A hand-me-down dining table was updated with black paint. The chairs were a splurge, while the pendant light is off the shelf from a big-box store.

West Highland White SW 7566 **WALL PAINT,** Sherwin-Williams; Ralph Lauren Lamp Room Gray RL1158 **CABINETRY PAINT, PENDANT LIGHT, CABINETRY HARDWARE,** The Home Depot; bentwood **DINING CHAIRS,** Elte; bamboo **BLINDS** (throughout), Lowe's; **FLOORING,** Peacock Lumber.

ABOVE Homeowner Christie Kauffman used newel posts to form columns on one side of the expanded island, then painted the whole thing a deeper shade than the rest of the cabinetry.

Totally Scientific P5203-44D **ISLAND PAINT,** Para Paints; butcher-block **ISLAND COUNTERTOP,** IKEA; **BACKSPLASH TILES, RANGE,** Sears; **RANGE HOOD,** Tasco; **PENDANT LIGHTS,** Restoration Hardware; typography **PRINT,** Urban Barn.

RIGHT Moe the Boston terrier peruses the shopping list on the section of wall Christie covered with chalkboard paint. A DIY frame finishes it off.

REFRIGERATOR, Sears; **CLOCK,** HomeSense.

THREE years ago, when Christie Kauffman moved into this new-build Oshawa, Ont., house with her husband, Todd, and two teenaged daughters, she already had big plans for it. The aspiring designer, blogger and skilled DIYer had plenty of her own ideas to take the interior from builder basic to dream home – and she did almost all the work herself.

The 240-square-foot kitchen is the perfect example. Because the couple bought the house at just the right time, Christie was able to specify the kitchen's layout. She also got creative with the limited selection of finishes offered by the builder. "I chose extra-tall dark wood cabinets with doors in a classic profile I preferred, knowing I would paint them a soft grey shade," she explains. For the countertops, Christie let her friend pick a laminate she liked: "Laminate countertops were included in the home's price, so once they were in place, I immediately gave them away to my friend." Shortly afterward, honed Carrara marble counters were installed.

But Christie's craftiness didn't stop there. To keep an airy feel, she removed the upper cabinet next to the large window and relocated it to the laundry room.

RIGHT Where there was once an upper cabinet, Christie hung open shelves for displaying her everyday dishes and collection of pitchers.

BELOW For the backsplash, Christie selected basic subway tile, but used grey grout for contrast. Off-the-shelf brackets applied to the underside of the upper cabinets add old-fashioned appeal.

STEPSTOOL, IKEA.

("Once again, it was included with the kitchen. So I let them hang it, then moved it elsewhere," she says.) In its place, Christie installed a simple white subway tile backsplash and open shelving to display her everyday dishware. For a custom look, she added trim and crown moulding that mimic a frieze to the bulkhead above the bank of upper cabinetry. She also beefed up the postage-stamp island by incorporating a section for the microwave, then wrapping the whole thing in beadboard and finishing it with columns on one side.

Along with her impressive carpentry skills, Christie also bakes, so she created a special station in one area of the kitchen to house her considerable collection of baking ingredients. One gets the impression there's nothing she can't do.

FOR SOURCES SEE OUR WORKBOOK

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seaside treasure

TEXT LESLEY YOUNG | **PHOTOGRAPHY** KATIE CRANE

Designer Philip Mitchell restores an 1860s East Coast charmer to its former glory.

the right house can change your life. Toronto-based designer Philip Mitchell and his partner, Mark Narsansky, purchased this 1860s seaside Gothic Revival in Chester, N.S., in 2009, originally intending to fix it up for rental income. "We wanted to restore the home and its floors, trim and millwork to the way they originally looked, while layering in modern conveniences, such as in-floor heating. I'm a huge preservationist," says Philip. That explains why they conducted painstaking research at the local library on design details in similar historic houses in the quaint village. Their diligence won them the 2010 Heritage Trust of Nova Scotia restoration award. Moreover, the 1,800-square-foot home ended up stealing their own hearts. Halfway through the restoration, the couple decided to keep Morning Tide (the site's historic name) as their own vacation retreat. "We fell in love with the house and even more so the village," Philip confirms, adding that the draw is so strong, they plan on making Chester their primary residence in the future. Here's how the eight-month-long project came together.

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1. SLIPPERY SLOPE

"The challenge with every sloped ceiling is how to make the area feel as big as possible and not have the slope detract from the actual room itself," says homeowner and designer Philip Mitchell. Here, he centred the bed on the wall regardless of the placement of the window and sloped ceiling, and further camouflaged the impediments with a gallery of vintage bird prints. "The artwork is a clever yet attractive distraction," he says.

DESIGN, Philip Mitchell Design, philipmitchell-design.com; **NIGHTSTAND,** Patina Antiques; **ROMAN SHADE, BEDSKIRT, EURO SHAM & LUMBAR CUSHION FABRICS,** Kravet Canada; **DUVET COVER, COVERLET,** Au Lit Fine Linens; **PILLOWCASE FABRIC,** Primavera; bird **PRINTS,** D & E Lake; custom **FRAMING,** Forma Fine Framing.

2. GRAND SCHEME

The front door was painted black, a nod to the home's Gothic Revival roots. "Overall, I wanted the impression to be more formal than cottagey," says Philip. He finished the look with restored antique hardware and reproduction sconces.

Custom **HOUSE NUMBER & LETTERS,** The Lunenburg Chiselworks; lantern-style **SCONCES,** Ginger's.

3. EASY PEASY

Because the home was originally intended to be a full-time rental, the backyard was designed with maintenance-free elements in mind: Pea gravel was used in place of grass and striking blue hydrangeas bring long-lasting colour. Reclaimed-brick pathways delineate several outdoor rooms.

TOSS CUSHION FABRICS, Lee Jofa.

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4. MUSICAL CHAIRS

Multiple seating arrangements – including a games table and reading nook as well as the main sitting area – are indicative of a grand old home and make the narrow living room appear bigger than it actually is, explains Philip. He selected the furniture (leather club chairs, a cane sofa and antique sidechairs) separately to create an effortlessly collected feel. "I love stripes," he adds about his choice of rug. "The variation in colour makes it the ultimate transition pattern, where you are able to tie in all the colours in a room."

Creamy White OC-7 **WALL & TRIM PAINT,** Benjamin Moore; **SOFA & TOSS CUSHION FABRICS,** Télio; **CLUB CHAIRS, RUG,** Elte; **SIDECHAIRS,** Patina Antiques; **SIDECHAIR FABRIC,** Kravet Canada; **DRAPERY FABRIC,** Lee Jofa; *Another Dream* **ARTWORK** by Joshua Jensen-Nagle, Galerie de Bellefeuille.

4

5

5. UNDER COVER

A found 18th-century mantel helps to reinstate the home's original character and charm. Panel moulding was added to give it a custom look. The highly coveted Deichmann pottery was made in New Brunswick.

POTTERY, Cynthia Findlay Antiques; **SCONCE,** Ginger's.

6

> *I like it when things look as if they've been* **collected over time** *rather than matching perfectly.*

6. PHOTO FINISH

Antique maps of the East Coast hung along the staircase take advantage of the high ceiling and initiate conversation among guests. Even though Philip had the prints framed at the same time, he chose different frames and mats for every single picture to "age" the gallery. He also preserved the staircase exactly as it was found, adoring the gingerbread trim. It's the kind of detail that is expensive and difficult to recreate. "The newels and spindles were exceptional. I also loved that the stairs were well used, so I didn't touch the finish. I just painted the decorative trim and spindles cream," explains Philip.

Striped **STAIR RUNNER,** Elte; **MAPS,** D & E Lake; custom **FRAMING,** Forma Fine Framing.

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7. HEART OF THE HOME

"The kitchen is everyone's favourite room," says Philip. Its welcoming vibe is in part due to its warm cream and green colour palette, which is carried through to the dining room to provide continuity. He adds, "The beadboard backsplash suits the age of the home and doesn't make the space look quite as new as it is."

CABINETRY, Bellini Custom Cabinetry; Creamy White OC-7 **CABINETRY PAINT,** Olive Branch 2143-30 **TRIM PAINT,** Benjamin Moore; Cambria **COUNTERTOP,** Bella Marble and Granite; Calacatta marble **ISLAND COUNTERTOP,** Caledonia Marble; **SINK,** Kohler; **FAUCET, LIGHT FIXTURE, CABINETRY HARDWARE,** Ginger's; **ROMAN SHADE FABRIC,** Primavera.

8. HAPPY MEDIUM

The ultimate balancing act between old and new occurs in the dining room: Philip removed a wall to open up the space to the kitchen, yet carried the original moulding from the bay window throughout. "We really wanted to preserve those charming elements," he says. Similarly, deliberate care was taken not to match the finish of the new dining table – custom made – with that of the antique breakfront and chairs (reupholstered in a warm caramel leather) in order to get a curated look.

Creamy White OC-7 **WALL PAINT,** Olive Branch 2143-30 **WAINSCOTTING PAINT,** Benjamin Moore; **BREAKFRONT,** 507 Antiques; **DINING TABLE,** The Lunenburg Chiselworks; **DINING CHAIRS,** Patina Antiques; **DRAPERY & DINING CHAIR FABRICS,** Kravet Canada.

FOR SOURCES, SEE OUR WORKBOOK

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Tucked away in TV personality Jillian Harris's backyard is a charming retreat set into a hill, where the scenic views stretch on and those who stay never want to leave.

be our guest

TEXT BRITTANY DEVENYI | **PHOTOGRAPHY** JANIS NICOLAY

> “I’ve always loved the idea of a guest house, but I never thought I’d be able to have my own.”

It goes without saying that a home should reflect those who live there, but sometimes it’s what a previous owner leaves behind that lends the most character to a space. Jillian Harris, co-host of W Network’s *Love It or List It Vancouver*, can attest to this. When she first set foot in the backyard of her bungalow in Kelowna, B.C. (featured in *Style at Home*’s May 2015 issue), which she shares with her partner, Justin Pasutto, she spotted a tiny abode just a few yards away, partially obscured by branches and subtly built into a hill.

What turned out to be a guest house became a main selling feature for the outgoing homeowner. “I’ve always loved the idea of a guest house, but I never thought I’d be able to have my own because they’re not that common,” says Jillian. “We’re constantly entertaining, so we like having a place where people can sleep after sitting around the fire with us.”

Jillian compares the petite pad – which she and Justin have termed the “casita” – to a European cottage found in a fable, pointing to its grey stone facade, glass double doors and charming white rooftop deck fitted with a picket-style railing that offers

OPPOSITE The brightly hued console was the jumping-off point for the guest house’s fresh colour palette and vintage aesthetic. Strategically placed accessories help achieve balance and scale. “It’s important to mix decor with function,” says homeowner Jillian Harris. “Furniture should always serve a purpose.”

CONSOLE, TABLE LAMP, TRAY, BASKET, HomeSense; **PITCHER,** IKEA; **MUGS,** Olive & Elle.

ABOVE Letters spelling out “The Law” (a feature left behind by the previous owner) brand the guest house’s entrance, playing up the space’s storybook allure. “We were told that the words translate to ‘the hill’ in Irish, but we’re really not sure,” says Jillian with a laugh. “It’s the mystery that adds character.” Glass double doors let in lots of light.

DOORMAT, HomeSense.

GET THE LOOK
PAINT PICKS

RECREATE THE LOOK OF JILLIAN'S GUEST HOUSE WITH THESE REFRESHING HUES.

picturesque views of the Okanagan. "It's just so cute and quaint," says Jillian. "We didn't even need to worry about renovating it."

The guest house's interior was also left unchanged, save for the powder blue walls (originally a similar but more subdued shade) and rustic-look furniture that was introduced. The result is a space that's feminine and cozy yet surprisingly functional. Look past the raised built-in bed and vintage trunk and you'll find a two-piece bathroom, separate shower, storage closet, TV, coffee machine and fully stocked mini fridge – all hidden behind doors or concealed within cupboards.

"It's about giving guests everything they need so they don't have to ask," says Jillian. "Here, you get to stay at a magical little cottage castle where someone has thought of you and catered to your needs. You feel so happy and so at home."

FOR SOURCES, SEE OUR WORKBOOK

ABOVE The raised built-in bed accented with elegant wainscotting is offset by the vintage trunk, lending the space a more timeless, lived-in look. With such stylish decor, it's easy to miss the shower to the left of the bed and the two-piece bathroom to the right.

Cay SW 6772 **WALL PAINT,** Sherwin-Williams; **DUVET, SHOWER CURTAIN, RUG, TOWELS,** white **TOSS CUSHIONS,** HomeSense; green leopard-print **TOSS CUSHIONS,** Arianna Belle; faux fur **THROW** (on trunk), IKEA; cream **THROW** (on trunk), The Cross Decor & Design; **BAR SOAP** (on trunk), Indigo.

LEFT, TOP Built-in closets flank the glass double doors. This one contains a mini fridge, coffee machine and TV, while the other serves as storage space for guests.

STOOL, TOSS CUSHIONS, owl **SCULPTURE,** HomeSense.

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clean acts

TEXT LESLEY YOUNG

Once considered strictly utilitarian, the laundry room is now getting the design attention it deserves. Here are four inspiring spaces you'll *want* to spend your time in.

PHOTOGRAPHY, DONNA GRIFFITH

1 fully tapped

The spacious multi-functional laundry room in the basement of designer Ingrid Oomen's Toronto home is equipped with all the bells and whistles.

Used for crafting, wrapping and folding, the antique wood table instantly warms up the mostly grey space.

STORAGE SOLUTIONS On one wall, custom built-in cabinetry surrounding a second fridge offers ample space for storing pantry staples and craft supplies, while matching cabinets on the adjacent wall are designated for cleaning essentials. Ingrid added another window for extra light and separated the washer and dryer with a sink – a daring design move. "Having an appliance under each window creates a more symmetrical look," she says, "and it makes sense functionally, as we prefer to hang-dry our clothes anyway."

HAPPY ACCIDENTS Ingrid had to have a wall-mounted faucet: "I find that it stays much cleaner this way." But since it was located on an exterior wall, extra insulation was necessary. The resulting jut-out gave her the perfect ledge for a soap dish. She also decided to leave the large gap (caused by the height of the washer and dryer) between the cabinets and countertop open for handy storage. "We place our overflow of towels and toilet paper there – it's clever and convenient," says Ingrid.

FLOOR SCORE The marble floor creates an incredibly luxe feel in the room. "Since it's C-grade marble due to the amount of variation in it, I was able to get a good deal," explains Ingrid. She chose a sparkling white subway tile for the backsplash and went with grey grout so she wouldn't have to worry about it yellowing.

decorating advice

"Bring at least one warm element into the design – otherwise a laundry room can feel cold and sterile."

DESIGN, Qummunicate, qummunicate.com; **COUNTERTOP,** Asia Marbles; **BACKSPLASH TILES,** Lowe's; LG **WASHER & DRYER,** Sears; **REFRIGERATOR,** Fisher & Paykel; **FAUCET,** Vintage Tub & Bath; Emeco **CHAIRS,** Design Within Reach; **FLOOR TILES,** Rivalda Ceramic Tiles; *Beach Walkers* **ARTWORK** by Gabriella Collier, Art Interiors; **LIGHT FIXTURE,** The Home Depot; **DRYING RACK, CABINETRY HARDWARE,** IKEA; **HAND TOWELS** (on counter and drying rack), Elte; tall glass **CANISTERS,** Pottery Barn; woven **TRAY, LIQUID SOAPS,** Ginger's.

The marble floor tiles' highly reflective finish makes their variation in colour and veining less noticeable.

PHOTOGRAPHY, DONNA GRIFFITH; STYLING, ANN MARIE FAVOT

2 pure flow

Despite its tiny size, this basement laundry room designed by Toronto-based Ingrid Oomen is big on both function and style.

SMOOTH TRANSITION The homeowner tasked Ingrid with developing a seamless design for the laundry room because it's visible through French doors off a high-traffic corridor. "This style of door was specifically chosen because it lets light in," explains Ingrid. The designer also had to take into account the fact that the small space was going to be used as storage and a cleanup area for kids after playtime.

SAVE CYCLE Working within a strict budget, Ingrid had to be creative with her choices: She opted for ready-made cabinets (painted to match the custom floating shelves); coated the backsplash with a durable, washable paint; and selected a basic washer and dryer. This allowed her to splurge on marble countertops. "When you use big-box-store cabinetry, it's nice to balance it with higher-end natural stone counters," says Ingrid.

70 sq. ft.

Closed storage hides bulky items and unsightly cleaning supplies, while open shelving displays the neat necessities.

A wall organizer keeps bits and bobs in one handy place.

TALL ORDER "There can be a lot going on in a laundry room, making it feel like a jumble, so keeping everything white helps to unify the space," says Ingrid.

DESIGN, Qummunicate, qummunicate.com; **CABINETRY** (painted), **CABINETRY HARDWARE,** IKEA; Decorators White CC-20 **CABINETRY & BACKSPLASH PAINT,** Benjamin Moore; **COUNTERTOPS,** Asia Marbles; Whirlpool **WASHER & DRYER,** The Home Depot; **FAUCET,** large **HAND BRUSH,** Ginger's; **FLOOR TILES,** Marble Granite Depot; **RUNNER, HAND TOWEL** (on sink), Elte; *Dust Cover* **ARTWORK,** Cybele Young; **WALL ORGANIZER, BASKETS,** HomeSense; glass **CANISTERS** (on upper shelf), Örling & Wu; tall glass **CANISTER,** Pottery Barn.

decorating advice

"One trick to help beautify a laundry room is to use an extra-deep kitchen sink instead of a plastic utility tub."

PHOTOGRAPHY, DONNA GRIFFITH; STYLING, ANN MARIE FAVOT & CHRISTINE HANLON

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3 spotless simplicity

Designer Jenifer Glover renovates the laundry room on the second floor of her Toronto home with a fresh, clean look in mind.

SOUND CHECK Since her son's bedroom is next door, Jenifer had the laundry room walls soundproofed to ensure the space could be used any time of day. A flat-screen TV was also a must-have for the busy mom, who wanted to make sure the job got done regularly. "My husband is the one who does the laundry, and he loves to watch football on Sundays," she says.

UNHAMPERED STORAGE Jenifer had bottom cabinets installed along one wall to make the most efficient use of the space. She ditched her initial idea of having upper cabinets, since the depth of the washer and dryer would have made reaching up into them difficult. The ready-made cabinetry houses cleaning supplies, while the drawers serve as spots for random odds and ends. "I toyed with choosing those sliding hampers but then worried the laundry would get forgotten," she says.

108 sq. ft.

DESIGN, J.G. Interiors, jginteriors.com; **CONTRACTING,** Diamond Building Developments; Ashwood OC-47 **WALL PAINT,** Benjamin Moore; **CABINETRY, HANGERS,** IKEA; **COUNTERTOP,** Caesarstone Canada; **BACKSPLASH TILES,** Saltillo Imports; Whirlpool **WASHER & DRYER,** Caplan's Appliances; **SINK,** lidded **BASKET,** Ginger's; **FAUCET,** American Standard; **FLOOR TILES,** Ciot; **RUNNER,** Elte; **LIGHT FIXTURE, SCONCE,** West Elm; **CABINETRY HARDWARE,** Upper Canada Specialty Hardware.

A sconce above the sink provides essential task lighting.

The muted backdrop allows the watery blue accents to shine.

WHITE OUT "A laundry room should be, if anything, clean – or at least *feel* clean," says Jenifer. "That's why there's nothing overly ornate in this space." With that in mind, she chose flat-panelled cabinets, a sleek Caesarstone countertop and a white washer and dryer. A classic subway tile backsplash carries on the clean-lined vibe.

decorating advice

"Don't be afraid to hang a favourite piece of art, wire in a TV or add a fabulous rug – anything to make the sorting and folding more enjoyable."

PHOTOGRAPHY, MICHAEL GRAYDON; STYLING, CHRISTINE HANLON

HE FIGHTS DIRTY *no matter how dirty* DIRTY IS.

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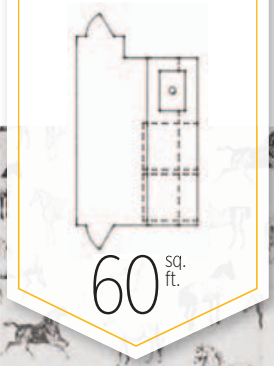
4 black (and white) beauty

Homeowner and co-owner of Vancouver's Peridot Decorative Homewear Rashell Gouwenberg celebrates her love of horses in her laundry-cum-mud room.

The wallpaper draws the eye up, enhancing the high ceiling and making the space feel larger than it actually is.



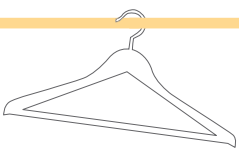
DIVINE DESIGN "When we were designing the house, I had the laundry room placed right off the kitchen," says Rashell. "It's the perfect spot to stow stuff when entertaining, which we really like to do." But that's not all – the laundry room also acts as a mud room, since it's the main entrance to the house from the barn.

TOUGH ACTS Rashell had as much closed storage as possible installed using custom cabinetry, which was painted in a semi-gloss finish because it's easier to clean. The indestructible quartz counter can handle any task, from folding clothes to arranging flowers freshly cut from the garden. The matte grey porcelain tile floor camouflages dirt and dust.

HORSE PLAY "I didn't just want to wallpaper the laundry room – I wanted to wallpaper it with a horse pattern," says Rashell, who searched high and low for the right one to complement the house's contemporary aesthetic. She eventually found this modern Swedish-designed black and white paper. "It's simple, quirky and fun, with just the right amount of country."

DESIGN, Peridot Decorative Homewear, peridotdecorativehomewear.ca; **CONTRACTING,** custom **CABINETRY, COUNTERTOP,** Carerra Projects; Sandberg Collette **WALLPAPER** in Black, Peridot Decorative Homewear; Frosty White SW 6196 **CABINETRY PAINT,** Sherwin-Williams; Samsung **WASHER & DRYER,** Coast Wholesale Appliances; **RUG,** metal **VASE,** HomeSense; **BASKET,** Indigo.

decorating advice



"I don't think people realize how much time they spend in their laundry room. Making it functional as well as fun is important."

FOR SOURCES, SEE OUR WORKBOOK

PHOTOGRAPHY, TRACEY AYTON

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AUGUST 2015

PHOTOGRAPHY, MICHAEL GRAYDON

SUMMER ROMANCE

There are certain things that are universal to all Canadians, the allure of a waterside cottage on a summer weekend being one of them. Whether you're at a new-build second home, a hand-me-down family compound or a ramshackle boathouse you can call your own, the appeal is the same: a glorious sunset, waves lapping gently at the shore, the rustle of trees in the breeze and the peace that your little slice of heaven brings.

DRESSED TO *decompress*

This cozy lake house in Port Carling, Ont., boasts a fresh seaside-chic vibe while paying homage to old-school Muskoka.

TEXT SARA CATION | **PHOTOGRAPHY** MICHAEL GRAYDON

This small boathouse sunroom is literally right on Ontario's Lake Rosseau: On windy days, you can feel waves crashing up through the floorboards.

DESIGN, ARCHITECTURE, Muskoka Living Interiors, muskokaliving.ca; **CONTRACTING,** TDS Developments; **FURNISHINGS, ACCESSORIES** (unless otherwise noted), Muskoka Living Interiors.

Nestled on the *south shore of Lake Rosseau* in Port Carling, Ont., this 6,800-square-foot six-bedroom house is decorated the way one would dress when visiting: in a crisp Polo Ralph Lauren Oxford shirt and comfortable, well-worn chinos paired with Sperry Top-Siders. It's a timeless look that's coastal, casual and effortlessly chic with a neutral palette at its core.

"The homeowners wanted to capture that warm, windswept lake house aesthetic but with a relaxed, cozy Muskoka feel for their young family of four," says Cory DeFrancisco of Muskoka Living Interiors, who designed and built the home from scratch, finishing in 2013.

But a huge house with such a subtle palette runs the risk of feeling cold and uninviting, says Cory. So he infused interest through a hyper-focus on detail, starting with a combination of wood. Poplar, oak and hemlock offer texture in their various grains, and they're all used in different ways. Ten-foot-high oak-beam ceilings are intimate and primitive, says Cory; the wall treatments range from stained white oak to painted poplar beadboard (except in the great room, where a wink of traditional panelling echoes the windows); and reclaimed-oak hardwood flooring is laid out in several different patterns. "Although there's a lot of textural change from room to room, it works because everything is neutral," says Cory. "There's a lot of interest, even if you don't necessarily know where it all comes from."

Cory next set about layering in some plush comfort. Simple, coastally inspired prints in classic blue and white are repeated throughout the house: The motif on the kitchen stools is also on the great room's toss cushions; the great room's armchair fabric is mirrored in the band at the bottom of the slipcovered dining chairs; and the entryway armchair fabric appears again

ABOVE Like a friendly smile and a firm handshake, the entryway makes a confident and inviting introduction to the home.

Barely There CSP-725 **WALL PAINT** (throughout), Coventry Gray HC-169 **DOOR, STAIR & WINDOW PAINT** (throughout), Cloud White CC-40 **TRIM PAINT** (throughout), Benjamin Moore.

LEFT "A lot of old cottages have those tunnelling hallways in their guest cottage or service quarters, and this beadboard wall treatment references that," says builder and designer Cory DeFrancisco.

RIGHT A big weathered farmhouse table paired with slipcovered seating and sophisticated lighting that doesn't block the view equals a dining room with easy elegance. But the best feature of this space is that, with the doors open, you really feel like you're eating alfresco.

BELOW "We took up 90 percent of the wall with windows," says Cory of the gorgeous great room, where the ceiling's oak beams guide your eye directly to the view. "The overstuffed sofas are insanely comfortable," he adds. "They're slipcovered in high-quality Belgian linen that gets softer with each wash."

BELOW, RIGHT Though the spacious kitchen is crisp, white and polished, simple details, such as the grain of the reclaimed-oak floors and the texture of the brush strokes on the hand-painted cabinetry, keep it humble and homey. "It's a new take on a traditional cottage kitchen, with all the modern amenities," says Cory.

Cloud White CC-40 **CABINETRY PAINT,** Benjamin Moore; **BACKSPLASH TILES,** Ciot.

in the master bedroom's upholstered bed frame. Like a well-planned wardrobe, everything goes; the textiles work in any combination. "We wanted to maintain a flow from one room to another," explains Cory.

The old-school Muskoka vibe is underscored in the finishes, from the hand-painted kitchen cabinetry and handmade antique wood doors to the barn-style pendant lights. "All of those elements are, I think, what makes it feel authentic to Muskoka. There's nothing ornate in the whole place," says Cory. (Who wears cuff-links with an Oxford shirt in these parts, anyway?) And just 35 feet away, in the boathouse, the look is much the same. The palette is almost all white and the dress code is bathing suits – after all, the lake's right there. Take one step out the door, and jump right in. The water's perfect.

FOR SOURCES, SEE OUR WORKBOOK

OPPOSITE Even though this home is grand, the family who lives here wanted an overall feeling of togetherness, so Cory kept it largely open concept.

RIGHT The whole master bedroom is very generous, but its sleeping area is quite small. In it, you'll find only an upholstered bed, two small side tables and a 180-degree view of the water.

BELOW The west-facing Muskoka room, with wall-to-wall windows, is so bright that it can pull off the charcoal walls. "The darkness acts as an anchor, while the light that shines in highlights the furnishings," explains Cory. The modular sectional is meant for the outdoors (so go ahead, get it wet) and can be reconfigured when company comes to create multiple sitting areas.

Kendall Charcoal HC-166 **WALL PAINT,** Benjamin Moore.

BELOW, RIGHT The large window behind the free-standing bathtub overlooks a garden and granite. "It's hard to make boulders sound nice," says Cory with a laugh, "but it's a beautiful view."

BATHTUB, FAUCET, Kitchen & Bath Classics.

An heirloom quilt, hung like artwork, cozies up the living area. "My grandmother made this quilt," says homeowner Joanne Clark. "It's something I treasure for its incredible workmanship and beauty, as well as the vivid childhood memories it evokes."

Petit Soleil **DESIGN PACKAGE,** Beaver Homes & Cottages, beaverhomesandcottages.ca; **CONTRACTING,** Mitchell Contracting; Simply White OC-117 **WALL & FLOOR PAINT** (throughout), Benjamin Moore; **CHAIRS,** Morba.

OPPOSITE "My dad and [husband] Richard built the island using old fence boards from my parents' place," says Joanne. "It was meant to be an interim island until we were settled, but then my dad died two weeks after we took occupancy. He was proud of building this island, so now it's here to stay!"

STOOLS, Frontier Sales; wooden **SHELVES, BRACKETS,** The Home Depot; **FAUCET,** Canadian Tire; **PENDANT LIGHTS,** IKEA.

NEW ROOTS

A cottage-loving couple decides to build one of their own, elevating a cookie-cutter plan into a character-filled haven.

TEXT CHRISTY WRIGHT | **PHOTOGRAPHY** DONNA GRIFFTH | **STYLING** STACY BEGG & ANN MARIE FAVOT

LEFT Joanne devised a crafty way to celebrate Richard's passion for fishing by mounting his old lures on colourful paper framed without glass. The sculpture below is made from a piece of driftwood the couple found on Cameron Lake in Ontario.

ABOVE Joanne and Richard enjoy relaxed cottage living on Ontario's Stoney Lake.

BELOW "I set up a bar on this tray table because I want guests to feel free to help themselves at cocktail hour," says Joanne. The table's wood tones are picked up in the picnic basket, games storage box and tree-stump stool, all of which warmly offset the bright white space.

TRAY TABLE, Pier 1 Imports; **THROW,** Indigo.

FOR MANY CANADIANS, the cottage is a brief respite from busy city life. For Joanne and Richard Clark, it is that and so much more. "Cottaging is in our DNA – it's who we are," says Joanne. "My family's been cottaging on Cameron Lake for generations, and Richard spent a large part of his youth at his uncle's Casement Island cottage on Stoney Lake." Both lakes are in Ontario's Kawarthas, so three years ago, when the Toronto-based couple (she's a marketing executive and he's a network engineer) decided it was time to build their own legacy, they didn't stray from the familiar. "It was Richard's dream to end up back on Stoney Lake with his own cottage, and I was excited to discover a new part of the Kawarthas," she says.

Slipcovered sofas and a coffee table Joanne and Richard crafted from hemlock mingle with a contemporary hide rug and iconic mid-century-style chairs, which aren't off limits: "The leather means you can sit on them in a wet bathing suit," says Joanne. The birch-branch chandelier, also made by the couple, creates a show-stopping canopy that literally brings the outdoors in.

SOFAS, IKEA; **LAMPSHADES,** Canadian Tire; checkered **LUMBAR CUSHIONS,** HomeSense; **TELESCOPE,** Frontier Sales.

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT "This is where we sit and take it all in," says Joanne; displaying decorative items, such as oil paintings and vintage tins, on the kitchen's open shelves avoids a predictable dishes-only look; "These objects mean something to us – the keys belonged to my grandfather, and the other items are gifts from friends who have stayed with us," she says; a nature-inspired vignette on the deck; director's chairs are part of the curated yet rustic furnishings in the living area; tomatoes from a local market; to keep the cottage's contemporary silhouette respectful of the landscape, the couple chose siding finished in a muddy grey tone; striped towels casually hang in the guest bedroom.

Vinyl **SIDING,** Mitten by Ply Gem; white **MUSKOKA CHAIRS,** black **LANTERNS,** Canadian Tire; wooden **MUSKOKA CHAIR,** Frontier Sales; **TOWELS,** Hudson's Bay; **ANIMAL HEAD,** The Centre Shop.

They embarked on an online real-estate search and were rewarded with a rare find: a vacant lot for sale on Stoney Lake. “It was kismet,” says Joanne. “A new build was our preference, as we wanted an efficiently constructed year-round place. We jumped at the opportunity.” The lot, an elevated flat granite shelf, is in a calm little bay and surrounded by trees. Its idyllic setting dictated the cottage’s design. “We imagined it like a tree house and envisioned something simple yet authentic with high ceilings and lots of light,” she says.

To expertly balance this design equation, the couple approached Beaver Homes & Cottages, a company that sells building plans and materials, which they discovered at a cottage trade show. They fell for one of its more contemporary packages – a 1,300-square-foot three-bedroom space with sloped ceilings – and worked closely with an in-house project manager to tweak the floor plan to their needs. “We nixed the standard windows for the next size up and increased the eight-foot ceiling height to nine, which makes the angled ceiling 20 feet high at its peak,” says Joanne. “We also reconfigured the bathroom, eliminating the tub to allow for a roomy shower, and forwent the pergolas on the deck for a more streamlined look.”

During the five months it took to build the cottage, Joanne’s mind had already fast-forwarded to the finished project. “I imagined every single room and what each would look and feel like. I wanted to mix modern and rustic, old and new, and land on something unique.” Covering the walls and pine floors in crisp white lets the couple’s diversified pieces – from heirloom textiles and weathered hemlock tables to slipcovered sofas and sculptural mid-century-style chairs – pop and fill the space with personality. And while there are little nods to luxury throughout, such as scented French candles and a granite-clad shower, the finished space is anything but precious. “Cottages are where you find old books, dog-eared card decks and antiques that have been in your family a long time,” says Joanne. “The special things remind you of who you are and where you’re from.” And for this couple, where they hope to be for many years to come.

FOR SOURCES, SEE OUR WORKBOOK

ABOVE The bathroom features a modern vessel sink and wall-mounted faucet atop a rough-hewn vanity made from old barn beams.

Cloud White CC-40 **WALL PAINT,** Benjamin Moore; custom **VANITY,** Woodview Farm & Forest Products; **SINK, FAUCET,** Tubs the Ultimate Bathroom Store; **RUG,** HomeSense; antique **MIRROR,** Frontier Sales; **SNOWSHOES,** East of Eden Antiques; white **TOWELS,** Hudson’s Bay.

LEFT The guest bedroom’s white backdrop and Hudson’s Bay multi-striped blanket speak to a preppy aesthetic. The artwork is made of greeting cards.

BEDDING, Hudson’s Bay; faux fur **TOSS CUSHION,** HomeSense.

a separate PEACE

A city couple finds an idyllic location to build the summer home of their dreams – with ample room for family and friends to visit.

TEXT BETH HITCHCOCK | **PHOTOGRAPHY** ROBIN STUBBERT | **STYLING** ANN MARIE FAVOT & CHRISTINE HANLON

ROOM TO GROW – that's what this couple craved after about 15 years of cottaging on Lake Joseph in Ontario's Muskoka region. With two children in their 20s and a whole host of friends on the lake – not to mention carloads of weekend guests – the Oakville, Ont., pair was ready to stretch the square footage of their summer house. But relocation was far easier dreamed about than done.

"We looked for almost four years, but something was always wrong," says one of the homeowners. "Whether it was the exposure, the depth of the water or the quality of construction, there was always something holding us back." Though he and his wife

ABOVE Two copper lantern-style pendant lights add elegance to the casual dining room.

DESIGN, The Summerhouse Group, thesummerhouse.ca; **ARCHITECTURE,** Hicks Partners; **CONTRACTING,** Muskoka Classics; Ballet White OC-9 **WALL PAINT** (throughout, except Muskoka room), Hazy Skies OC-48 **TRIM PAINT** (throughout, except Muskoka room), Benjamin Moore.

weren't looking to build from scratch, when a piece of land became available near MacTier on Lake Joseph's northern tip (prized for its rugged Group of Seven-esque landscape and sweeping views), one of the homeowners, a real estate broker, took immediate action. "I jumped in my car, drove up to do a site inspection and pretty much closed the deal the same day," he says with a laugh.

With the perfect west-facing plot secured, the couple began the two-year process of designing and building the 4,000-square-foot cottage with five bedrooms and five bathrooms. But though they could now comfortably accommodate visitors, the homeowners wanted to ensure the space felt cozy despite its grand proportions.

Enter Port Carling-based designer Christopher Spraggett of The Summerhouse Group, who worked with the couple on their previous cottage as well as their Oakville home. "'Light' and 'airy' were the words that kept coming up," he says. "But it was clear that the owners didn't want a stark white cottage."

Christopher chose chunky millwork and hemlock floors, reclaimed from an old schoolhouse, to add texture and warmth to the bones of the house. He then used some clever paint techniques to layer in more depth. He coated the walls in a warm white tone and painted the trim in the living room, dining room and kitchen a pale grey to highlight the detail.

And because the homeowners entertain frequently, Christopher furnished the space with comfy, generously

OPPOSITE, TOP LEFT
The cottage evokes a grand, traditional vibe but still suits its rustic surroundings.

Blacktop 2135-10 **SIDING PAINT,** Benjamin Moore.

OPPOSITE, TOP RIGHT
Slipcovered chairs keep the dining room arrangement feeling casual and cottagey, while the custom oversized trestle table adds an air of antiquity.

DINING CHAIRS, CABINET, PENDANT LIGHTS, Cocoon Furnishings; **RUG, HURRICANE LANTERNS,** Elte; woven nesting **TRAYS,** Lock + Quay.

OPPOSITE, BOTTOM
For the living room, designer Christopher Spraggett chose a pale grey paint for the trim to subtly offset the white walls and draw the eye to the height of the ceiling without stealing attention from the furnishings.

SOFA, Cocoon Furnishings; **COFFEE TABLE, TABLE LAMPS,** Lock + Quay; **RUG,** Elte.

LEFT Substantial millwork adds architectural interest to the kitchen, and reclaimed-hemlock floors lend a sense of warmth and age. Christopher chose a medium grey paint for the island and a solid grey quartzite perimeter countertop as a counterpoint to all the white cabinetry. A striped runner and a pendant light with a zinc finish infuse the space with a subtle nautical flair.

Hazy Skies OC-48 **CABINETRY PAINT,** Chelsea Gray HC-168 **ISLAND PAINT,** Benjamin Moore; striped **RUNNER,** Elte.

From the furnishings to the floor covering, the Muskoka room is awash in blue and white. The gas fireplace's stone veneer brings in extra texture, as do details like the table lamps made from antique Nepalese milk jugs.

SOFA, COFFEE TABLE, Cocoon Furnishings; **ARMCHAIRS, TABLE LAMPS,** Lock + Quay; **LUMBAR CUSHIONS,** West Elm.

A grouping of Muskoka chairs around the firepit is positioned to take advantage of the sweeping views. "We get to see killer sunsets," says one of the homeowners.

FOR SOURCES, SEE OUR WORKBOOK

scaled furniture that has a laid-back vibe. "I didn't use a ton of colour or pattern, but I did bring in plenty of texture with rugs, linen fabric and woven accents," he says.

In many cottages, the kitchen is the heart of the home, but here it's the large 400-square-foot Muskoka room, which boasts both living and dining areas. With its soaring ceiling, focal-point fireplace and windows that fold into one another, it's both a great room and a screened-in porch. Christopher had the rough-sawn-wood planks cladding the walls and ceiling stained in an opaque grey to let them take centre stage. Like the rest of the cottage, the room is grand and spacious, but also cozy and intimate.

"Every morning I sit in that room," says one of the homeowners. "I feel the nice cross-breeze off the water, see the reflection of the sun twinkling on the lake and hear the wind in the trees," he says. "It's just how I imagined it would be."

PANZANELLA
Caprese

Here's a rare case where slightly stale bread actually works better than fresh.

we say TOMATO

There's no better homegrown summer produce than the hard-working and versatile ripe and juicy tomato. Here, we feature delicious recipes that deliver the best from such humble beginnings.

TEXT JULIE VAN ROSENDAAL | **PHOTOGRAPHY** CLINTON HUSSEY | **STYLING** JENNIFER STAMPER

Slow-Roasted TOMATOES

Roasting tomatoes caramelizes the sugars and lowers their acidity.

SLOW-ROASTED TOMATOES

Assorted tomatoes, large ones halved, smaller ones kept whole
A few sprigs fresh thyme or rosemary
1 head garlic, halved crosswise (optional)
Extra-virgin olive oil
Salt and freshly ground black pepper

Preheat the oven to 325°F. Place the tomatoes cut side up on a parchment paper-lined rimmed baking sheet. Tuck in the fresh herbs and the head of garlic. Drizzle with the oil and sprinkle with salt and pepper.

Roast for 1½ hours or until the tomatoes are tender and starting to caramelize on the edges. If you'd like more browned bits, increase the heat to 400°F and roast for an extra 10 to 15 minutes.

FRIED GREEN TOMATOES *With Goat Cheese*

Meet the ultimate way to elevate your next burger.

FRIED GREEN TOMATOES WITH GOAT CHEESE

3 large green tomatoes
Flour, for dredging
Salt and freshly ground black pepper
2 eggs
¾ cup bread crumbs or panko
½ cup cornmeal
Canola or peanut oil, for cooking
4 oz (about 1 cup) goat cheese
¼ cup heavy cream
2 fresh basil leaves

Cut the tomatoes crosswise into ½"-thick slices. Place some flour in a shallow dish or pie plate and season with salt and pepper. Crack the eggs into another shallow dish and stir with a fork. In a third dish, combine the bread crumbs and cornmeal.

Coat the bottom of a large, heavy skillet generously with oil and set over medium-high heat. While the oil is heating, coat each tomato slice by dipping it first in the flour, then in the beaten eggs and finally in the bread crumb mixture. Fry until the slices are golden and crisp on both sides, transferring to a paper towel-lined plate as they're done.

Combine the goat cheese, cream and basil leaves in the bowl of a food processor and pulse until smooth. (If you like, whip the goat cheese and cream first, then add the basil in a few pulses so it's not as evenly blended.) Alternatively, beat with an electric mixer, adding the basil at the end.

Serve the tomatoes warm, topped with a dollop of the whipped goat cheese.

PANZANELLA CAPRESE

Half of a good-quality baguette
¼ cup extra-virgin olive oil, plus extra for dressing
1 clove garlic, peeled and crushed
½ cup balsamic vinegar
2 cups cherry or grape tomatoes, halved on a slight diagonal
1 cup small bocconcini, torn in pieces
½ cup fresh basil leaves
Freshly ground black pepper

Preheat the oven to 425°F. Cut the baguette into 1" cubes and transfer to a large bowl. Place the oil and garlic in a small dish; let stand for a minute, then drizzle over the bread cubes and toss to coat.

Spread the bread cubes in a single layer on a rimmed baking sheet and bake until pale golden and toasted, about 10 minutes. Meanwhile, simmer the balsamic vinegar in a small saucepan over medium heat until reduced by half; it should have the consistency of a thin syrup. Set aside to cool.

Arrange the toasted bread, tomatoes and bocconcini on a platter or divide among individual plates. Top with the fresh basil leaves, left whole, torn or thinly sliced. Drizzle with the oil and the balsamic reduction, sprinkle with pepper and serve immediately.

porkapeñoswisscuit
We start with something simple, whole grain wheat crackers. Then we added Swiss cheese, zesty jalapenos and pulled pork. Where you take your Triscuit is entirely up to you.
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HEIRLOOM TOMATO TART
With Parmesan Crust

While circular is the traditional shape, you can modify a tart to fit pretty much any bakeware.

HEIRLOOM TOMATO TART WITH PARMESAN CRUST

Crust

1¼ cups all-purpose flour
½ cup freshly grated Parmesan
¼ tsp freshly ground black pepper
½ cup chilled unsalted butter, cut in pieces
⅓ cup cold water

Filling

1 sweet onion, halved and thinly sliced
Extra-virgin olive oil, for cooking and serving
A few sprigs fresh thyme
¼ cup basil pesto (optional)
4 oz soft goat cheese or Boursin garlic and fine herbs cheese
3 or 4 ripe heirloom tomatoes, sliced ¼" thick
Coarse sea salt
A few pea shoots, for garnish

In a medium bowl (or the bowl of a food processor), combine the flour, Parmesan and pepper. Add the butter and blend with a pastry blender or pulse in the food processor until the mixture resembles coarse meal. Add the cold water and stir by hand just until the dough comes together. Shape the dough into a disc and let rest on the countertop for 20 minutes.

On a lightly floured surface, roll out the dough until it's just larger than a 9" or 10" tart tin with a removable bottom. Fit the pastry into the tin and trim the edges until they're flush with the edge of the tin. Refrigerate until chilled. Preheat the oven to 375°F.

In a medium skillet, sauté the onion in a drizzle of oil over medium-high heat until golden, about 6 to 8 minutes. Pull the leaves off a sprig of thyme and add them during the last minute of cooking.

Spread the pesto over the bottom of the pastry crust, top with the caramelized onions, then crumble the goat cheese overtop. Layer with the tomatoes, overlapping the slices. Drizzle with a bit more oil and sprinkle with salt.

Bake until the crust is golden and the tomatoes are tender, 35 to 40 minutes. Cool to room temperature before garnishing with the pea shoots, slicing and serving.

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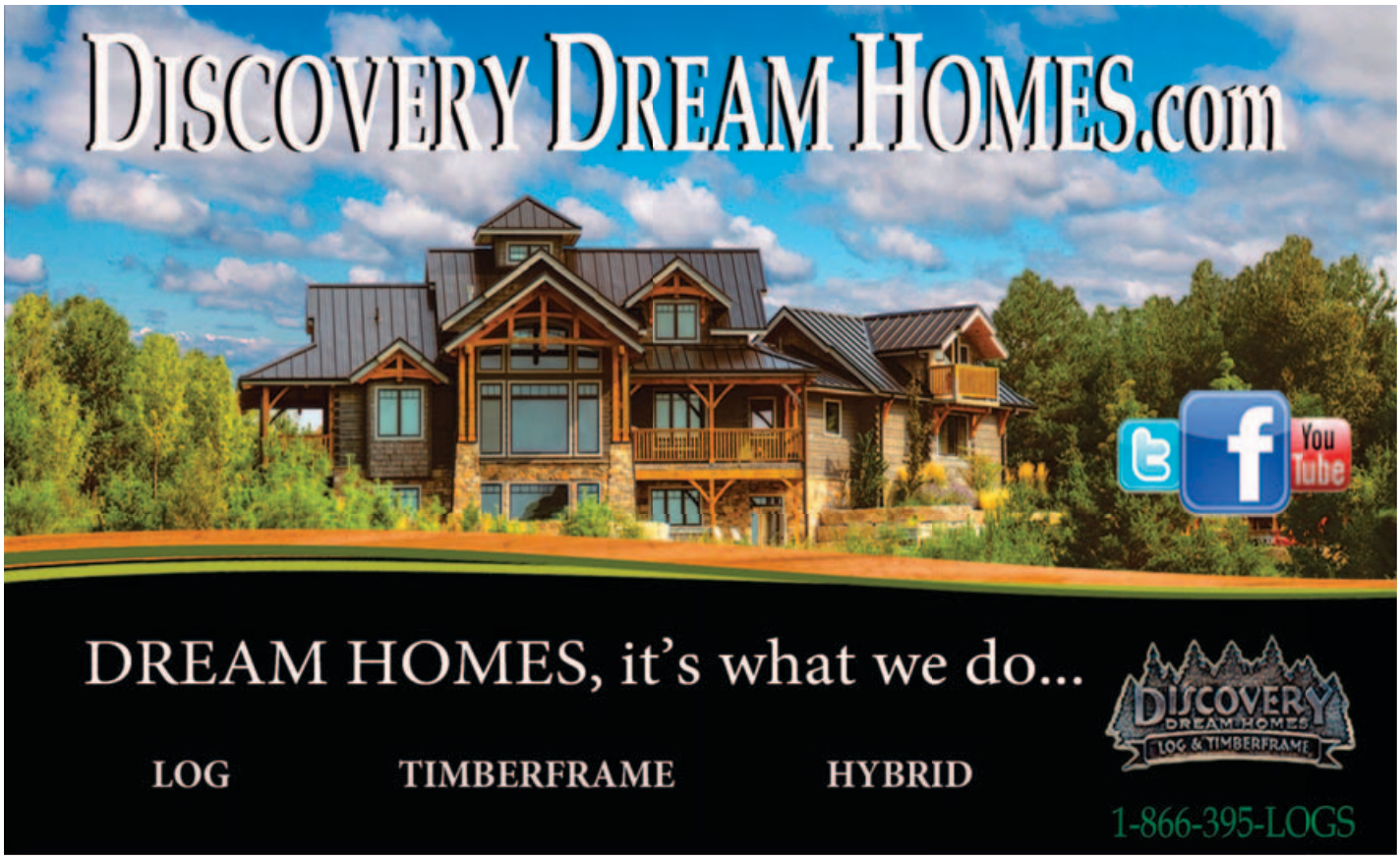

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32 ♥ 4

A pitcher of lemonade is the epitome of summer, especially when served alongside fragrant flowers.

PHOTOGRAPHY DONNA GRIFFITH

63 ♥ 4

Iron pendant lights, Wishbone-style chairs and a trestle table amount to an ideal dining setting.

PHOTOGRAPHY ROBIN STUBBERT

64 ♥ 6

Exposed beams and charcoal grey furniture pop against the white walls of this modern farmhouse.

PHOTOGRAPHY DONNA GRIFFITH

design pinspiration

We round up our favourite cottage-style images from our Pinterest boards for extra inspiration.

757 ♥ 63

This Muskoka room's nautical theme is brought further into focus thanks to the picturesque lake views.

PHOTOGRAPHY MICHAEL GRAYDON

298 ♥ 34

Custom mint-hued appliances add retro charm and whimsy to this traditional cottage kitchen.

PHOTOGRAPHY DONNA GRIFFITH

33 ♥ 4

These all-too-comfortable-looking teak chairs beckon guests to stay awhile and bask in the summer sun.

PHOTOGRAPHY DONNA GRIFFITH

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